

1998 SUCCESS STORIES

During 1998, 55 National Historic Landmarks were removed from this report because their condition significantly improved or identified dangers no longer exist.

Alaska

Attu Battlefield and U.S. Army and Navy Airfields on Attu, Attu Island, Aleutian Islands

Attu was the site of the only World War II battle on the North American continent. Attu was captured by the Japanese and reoccupied by the Americans in 1943. The military had planned to remove an historic bridge that was an important feature of the Landmark. That plan has been abandoned.

Kennecott Mines, Kennecott, Valdez-Cordova Borough

The Kennecott Mines Complex is the best remaining example of an early 20th century copper camp in the nation. The mines now belong to the National Park Service, which is managing them as part of the Wrangel-St. Elias National Park.

Russian-American Magazin, Kodiak, Kodiak Island

This warehouse is the oldest of only four Russian structures standing in the United States. The Magazin had deteriorated, but is now being well maintained and managed by the Kodiak Historical Society.

Sitka Naval Operating Base and U.S. Army Coastal Defenses, Sitka, Sitka Borough

This was the Navy's first air station in Alaska and the only Alaska air station at the outbreak of World War II. The potential threat of incompatible new constructions and alterations to the historic buildings has been mitigated.

Sitka Spruce Plantation, Amaknak Island, Aleutian Islands

Three trees planted in 1824 remain of the first recorded afforestation project on the North American continent. The National Park Service has provided a volunteer tree expert to help protect and maintain them. The Corps of Engineers is removing hazardous pollutants from the area. Earlier plans to build a skateboard and tennis court in the midst of the trees have been canceled.

Arkansas

Fort Smith National Historic Site, Fort Smith, Sebastian County

Constructed in 1817, Fort Smith was one of the earliest U.S. military posts in the Missouri Territory. The National Park Service is carrying out major rehabilitation of buildings and the landscape and will complete installation of exhibits in 1999.

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Little Rock Central High School, Little Rock, Pulaski County

The first major confrontation over implementation of the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954) to end segregation in public education occurred here on September 24, 1957. The Little Rock School District has received a grant from the Getty Grant Program to survey, assess and develop a program to limit further deterioration of the school. Street resurfacing, decorative intersections, and the visitor center to interpret the NHL have been completed.

California***Balclutha*, San Francisco, San Francisco County**

The *Balclutha* is a three-masted, full-rigged ship that played an active part in the maritime trade between England, California and Alaska. Extensive repairs have been completed using funds from the National Park Service and the National Maritime Museum Association.

Hanna Honeycomb House, Stanford, Santa Clara County

The Hanna house is the first and best example of Frank Lloyd Wright's innovative hexagonal design. Severe earthquake damage has been repaired by Stanford University, which will use the house as a conference center.

Hotel del Coronado, Coronado, San Diego County

The Coronado Hotel was the first hotel in the world to use electric lighting-installed under the direct supervision of Thomas A. Edison. The new private owner has modified conceptual development plans to be more sensitive to the historic setting of the hotel than originally proposed.

New Almaden Historic District, New Almaden, Santa Clara County

This historic district includes the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine, the first and largest mercury mine in North America, and the historic mining town of New Almaden. The county has converted the former mine superintendent's house into a museum rather than construct a new building and is maintaining the houses to retain their historic character.

USS *Hornet* (CV-12), Alameda, Alameda County

The Aircraft Carrier *Hornet* participated in many of the most important battles in the Pacific during World War II. Her career was capped by recovering the Apollo 11 and 12 astronauts after their missions. The USS *Hornet* Foundation raised funds to acquire the ship through the Navy's memorial ship program and to open it for tours. The ship will be developed as a museum and conference center.

Florida**El Centro Espanol de Tampa, Tampa, Hillsborough County**

El Centro Espanol de Tampa is the best surviving Spanish ethnic and cultural club building in the Gulf Coast states. A private developer is sensitively rehabilitating this to ensure its integrity is retained.

Okeechobee Battlefield, Okeechobee County

This battlefield was the site of a decisive battle between the Seminole Indians and General Zachary Taylor. The Landmark is no longer threatened by development.

Ybor City Historic District, Ybor City, Hillsborough County

Ybor City is an outstanding assemblage of nineteenth-century commercial and residential buildings in this Cuban-American, cigar-manufacturing town. Threats from proposed development and the expansion of Interstate Highway 4 have been resolved.

Georgia**Columbus Historic Riverfront Industrial District, Columbus, Muscogee County**

A number of the important structures within this historic textile-manufacturing center have been demolished. The NHL boundary will be revised to delete those areas of the district that no longer retain their integrity.

Stallings Island, Columbia County

The island is the site of one of the most important shell middens in the Southeast. The private landowner donated the island to the Archaeological Conservancy, which will protect the site from vandalism.

Hawaii**Honokohau Settlement, Hawaii County**

Honokohau Settlement includes fishponds, heiau, many house sites and other archeological remains. Proposed development of the adjacent coastline now appears unlikely in the near future.

Mo'okini Heiau, Hawaii County

The Landmark includes large and architecturally unique heiau and the commemorative birthplace of King Kamehameha I. Restricting automotive access to the site has reduced looting and vandalism.

Illinois**Auditorium Building, Chicago, Cook County**

Designed by Louis Sullivan and Dankmar Adler, the Auditorium building is a major architectural landmark of the nineteenth century in Chicago. The Landmark's owner had considered installing inappropriate replacement windows, but has since consulted with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office and has selected restoration-quality replacement windows. In addition, a preservation covenant has been placed on the building until 2004.

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Church of the Holy Family, Cahokia, St. Clair County

Typical French Colonial upright log construction built between 1786 and 1799, this Church was listed on the 1997 Watch List for fear of impacts by planned archeological site work. The work has been completed in a manner that in no way damaged the building.

Crow Island School, Winnetka, Cook County

Designed by Eero and Eliel Saarinen, Crow Island School was erected in 1940 to embody revolutionary child-centered ideas about education. Listed previously for deterioration, it is being removed from the list because repair and restoration have been completed.

Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, Sangamon County

Abraham Lincoln, his wife and three of their four sons are buried in this tomb. The roof has been repaired and graffiti removed. A security guard is now on-site to prevent further vandalism.

Lindsay (Vachel) House, Springfield, Sangamon County

The poet Vachel Lindsay lived in this house for most of his life. The state, which owns the house, has stabilized and repaired it and has replaced the mechanical systems.

Reliance Building, Chicago, Cook County

Designed by Burnham and Root, the Reliance Building is recognized worldwide as a landmark building in the early development of skyscrapers. The City has stabilized the building and has an agreement with a developer to rehabilitate it as a hotel. Consultation with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office is in progress.

Willard (Frances) House, Evanston, Cook County

Frances Willard made the Women's Christian Temperance Union a national force. The owner has abandoned plans to redevelop the adjacent property and has formed an historical association to preserve the property and its surrounding neighborhood. The owner is consulting with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office about expanding the NHL designation to incorporate neighboring buildings.

Iowa**Phipps Site, Cherokee County**

The Phipps Site illustrates lifeways of the Plains Indians. Threatened by erosion, Federal and state agencies are collaborating to re-grade and riprap the streambed adjacent to the site.

William M. Black, Dubuque, Dubuque County

The *William M. Black* is one of only four remaining side-wheel propelled river dredges used by the Army Corps of Engineers. The vessel is undergoing extensive rehabilitation and restoration, including encapsulation of lead paint and implementation of Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. The work is made possible by an Inter-modal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act grant.